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CURRENT LEGAL PERIODICALS AND BOOK REVIEWS.

THE CITIZEN'S HANDBOOK (*Pennsylvania Edition*). By RUPERT S. HOLLAND and ROBERT D. JENKS, of the Philadelphia Bar. Pp. 233. Philadelphia: George W. Jacobs & Co., publishers.

This little book combines the qualities of a short manual of civil government and brief explanation of ordinary business terms and customs, of which the man whose activities are confined to one sphere is generally much in ignorance. Its scope is that of a brief reference work to which one may turn for a

NOTE.—The publication of Mr. Crawford D. Hening's article on "The Limitations of the Action of Assumpsit as Affecting the Right of Action of the Beneficiary," will be resumed in the February number.—ED.

ready answer to the many questions which confront a citizen almost every day in regard to his commercial, legal, and political relations. Its aim is to supply to the citizen whose energies are bent upon perfecting himself in one line of activity, and whose knowledge of matters outside his own field of work is correspondingly limited, information which shall be readily accessible and comprehensible upon the more salient features of every-day affairs. "In no sense," say the authors, "is it to be regarded as a legal treatise. It is only an outline and an explanation of the use of terms in a given subject that is attempted, a summary of the essential points."

In all twenty-eight subjects are treated, including matters of such practical importance to the business man as negotiable instruments, partnership and corporations, stocks and bonds, transportation, mortgages and insurance, landlord and tenant, building associations, etc. The book is so small and so many subjects are treated that the exposition of each subject is necessarily very superficial, but, nevertheless, is in the main accurate.

We believe that a handbook which would supply practical and concise information upon constantly recurring questions of every-day affairs has been needed, and in the present volume the authors seem admirably to have accomplished their purpose in furnishing ready and accurate answers to the questions which every citizen asks almost daily of "someone else."

F. H. S.

HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF PUBLIC CORPORATIONS. By HENRY H. INGERSOLL, LL.D., Dean of the University of Tennessee School of Law. Pp. xvii+738. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Company. 1904.

The scope of Judge Ingersoll's treatment may best be apprehended from his definition: "A public corporation is a corporation created by the state for public purposes only, as an instrumentality to increase the efficiency of government, supply the public wants, and promote the public welfare."

Under this heading he draws three main divisions—"Quasi Corporations," "Municipal Corporations," and "Quasi Municipal Corporations." The treatment is clear, concise, and well considered in every detail. The law is not only stated as it is, but why it is, and one feels the guiding thread of reason draw him from one principle to another in harmonious succession. One great benefit of the arrangement is that it is impossible to get lost in the details of some elaborate investigation so as to lose sight of the relation it bears to the main topic. One